

ARTICLE V

THE BUDGET

Fiscal Year

Section 45. The fiscal year of the City of College Station shall be determined by ordinance of the Council. Such fiscal year shall also constitute the budget and accounting year.

Preparation and Submission of Budget

Section 46. The City Manager, between thirty (30) and ninety (90) days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, shall submit to the City Council a proposed budget which shall provide a complete financial plan for the fiscal year.

Proposed Expenditures Compared With Other Years

Section 47. The City Manager shall, in the preparation of the budget, place in parallel columns opposite the various items of expenditures the actual amount of such items of expenditures for the last completed fiscal year, the estimated for the current fiscal year, and the proposed amount for the ensuing fiscal year.

Budget a Public Record

Section 48. The budget and all supporting schedules shall be filed with the City Secretary when submitted to the City Council and shall be a public record for inspection by anyone. The City Manager shall cause copies to be made for distribution to all interested persons.

Notice of Public Hearing on Budget

Section 49. At the meeting at which the budget is submitted, the City Council shall fix the time and place of a public hearing on the budget and shall cause to be published a notice of the hearing setting forth the time and place thereof at least five (5) days before the date of the hearing.

Public Hearing on Budget

Section 50. At the time and place set for a public hearing on the budget, or at any time and place to which such public hearing shall from time to time be adjourned, the City Council shall hold a public hearing on the budget submitted, and all interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard for or against any item or the amount of any item therein contained.

Proceedings on Budget After Public Hearing Amending or Supplementing Budget

Section 51. After the conclusion of such public hearing, the City Council may insert new items or may increase or decrease the items of the budget, except items in proposed expenditures fixed by law. Before inserting any additional item or increasing any item of appropriation which will increase the total budget by three (3%) percent or more, it must cause to be published a notice setting forth the nature of the proposed increases and

fixing a place and time, not less than five (5) days after publication, at which the City Council will hold a public hearing thereon.

Proceedings on Adoption of Budget

Section 52. After such further hearing, the City Council may insert the additional item or items, and make the increase or increases, to the amount in each case indicated by the published notice, or to a lesser amount; but where it shall increase the total proposed expenditures, it shall also provide for an increase in the total anticipated revenue to at least equal such total proposed expenditures.

Vote Required for Adoption

Section 53. The budget shall be adopted by the favorable vote of a majority of the members of the entire City Council.

Date of Final Adoption; Failure to Adopt

Section 54. The budget shall be finally adopted not later than the twenty-seventh day of the last month of the fiscal year. Should the City Council take no final action on or prior to such day, the budget as submitted by the City Manager shall be deemed to have been finally adopted.

Effective Date of Budget; Certification; Copies Made Available

Section 55. Upon final adoption, the budget shall be filed with the City Secretary. The final budget shall be printed, or otherwise reproduced, and a reasonable number of copies shall be made available for the use of all offices, departments and agencies, and for the use of interested persons and civic organizations.

Budget Establishes Appropriations

Section 56. From the effective date of the budget, the several amounts stated therein as proposed expenditures shall be and become appropriated to the several objects and purposes therein named.

Budget Establishes Amount to be Raised by Property Tax

Section 57. From the effective date of the budget, the amount stated therein as the amount to be raised by property tax shall constitute a determination of the amount of the levy for the purposes of the City in the corresponding tax year.

Contingent Appropriation

Section 58. Provision shall be made in the annual budget and in the appropriation ordinance for a contingent appropriation in an amount not more than three (3) percent of the total budget expenditure, to be used in case of unforeseen items of expenditures. Such contingent appropriation shall be under the control of the City Manager and distributed by him, after approval by the City Council. Expenditures from this appropriation shall be made only in case of established emergencies and a detailed account of such expenditures shall be recorded and reported. The proceeds of the contingent appropriation shall be disbursed only by transfer to other departmental appropriation, the spending of which shall be charged to the departments or activities for which the appropriations are made.

Estimated Expenditures Shall Not Exceed Estimated Resources

Section 59. The total estimated expenditures of the general fund and debt fund shall not exceed the total estimated resources of each fund.

The City Council may by ordinance amend the budget during a fiscal year if one of the following conditions exists:

1. If during the fiscal year the City Manager certifies that there are available for appropriation revenues in excess of those estimated in the budget, the City Council, by ordinance, may make supplemental appropriations for the year up to the amount of such excess. Before approval, the Council shall hold a public hearing on the proposed budget amendment. A notice of the time and place of a public hearing on the supplemental appropriation shall be published in the official newspaper of the City of College Station. The notice shall be placed in the newspaper at least five (5) working days before the date of the hearing.
2. To meet a public emergency affecting life, health and property of the public peace, the City Council may make emergency appropriations. Such appropriations may be made by emergency ordinance. To the extent that there are no available unappropriated revenues or a sufficient fund balance to meet such appropriations, the Council may by such emergency ordinance authorize the issuance of emergency notes, which may be renewed from time to time, but the emergency notes and renewals of any such notes made during a fiscal year shall be paid not later than the last day of the fiscal year next succeeding that in which the emergency appropriation was made.
3. If at any time during the fiscal year it appears probable to the City Manager that the revenues or fund balances available will be insufficient to meet the amounts appropriated, he shall report to the City Council without delay, indicating the estimated amount of the deficit, any remedial action taken by him and his recommendations as to any other steps to be taken. The Council shall then take such further action as it deems necessary to prevent or reduce any deficit and for that purpose it may by ordinance reduce one or more appropriations.

Lapse of Appropriation

Section 60. All appropriations shall lapse at the end of the fiscal year to the extent that they shall not have been expended or lawfully encumbered.